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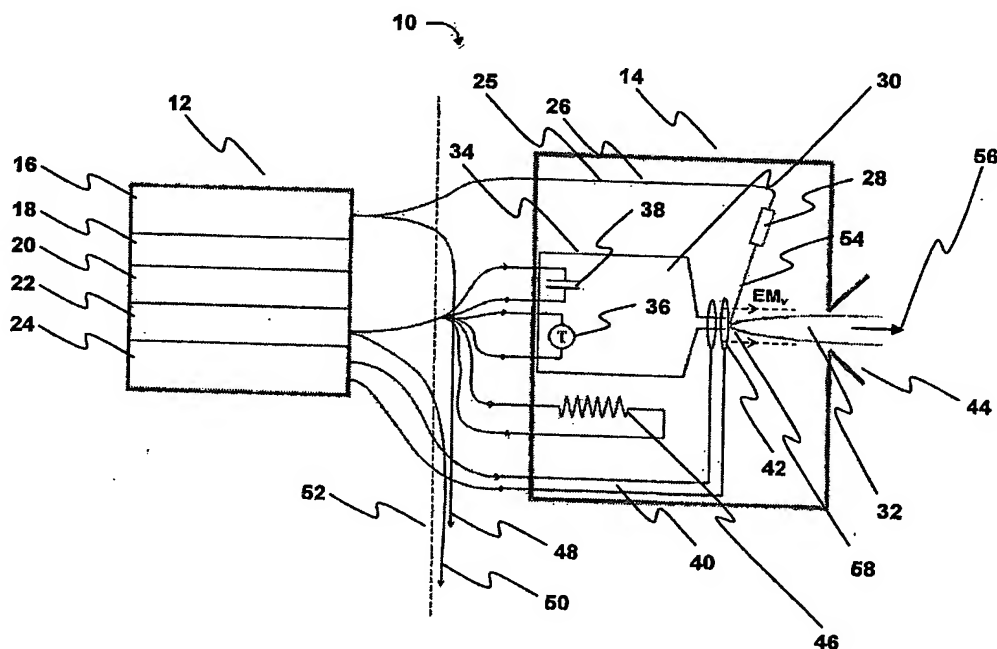
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(54) Title: **LASER PROPULSION THRUSTER**



(57) Abstract: A hybrid electric-laser propulsion (HELP) thruster. A propellant has self-regenerative surface morphology. A laser ablates the propellant to create an ionized exhaust plasma that is non-interfering with a trajectory path of expelled ions. An electromagnetic field generator generates an electromagnetic field that defines a thrust vector for the exhaust plasma. Multiple HELP thrusters may be ganged together, and controlled, according to mission criteria.

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